

SECRET

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

NFAC #0200-79
12 January 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Gates Group on White House Intelligence Support, 12 January 1979 (U)

1. Bob Gates convened another meeting on 12 January of the "little" group on political intelligence to pass on further requests and reactions from Dr. Brzezinski and David Aaron. The third member, Frank Wisner of State, was also present. This morning's session emphasized feedback, virtually all of it positive; most of the current substantive concerns listed were holdovers (see annex). One important new high interest topic is [REDACTED]

25X1

2. Gates said he wanted to start with a few kudos. Brzezinski and Aaron had both asked that he record their satisfaction over the report LDX'd to them on 11 January dealing with Fidel Castro and Mozambique. In their words, that item was "right on target" and "exactly what we're talking about," both in terms of its timely delivery and analytic thrust. [REDACTED]

25X1

3. Second, Brzezinski had read in full and commented to Aaron on both special interest memos we sent him recently, even though they exceeded his strict length limits. (These were the memos on Soviet and other foreign reaction to the normalization of relations with China. This morning I delivered a third typescript assessment prepared for Brzezinski by ORPA and NIO/USSR-EE on Soviet-Rumanian relations.) Gates said they had noted the strongly analytic cast of the Soviet memo, and, even though our judgment on the timing of the summit proved to be wrong, they appreciated the attempt to make a clear prediction rather than "waffling." [REDACTED]

25X1

4. Both NSC and State praised the intelligence support they had received on recent Indochina developments; Secretary Vance, in particular, appreciated the "fine job" we had done. [REDACTED]

25X1

5. Finally, Gates reported that in his arena there was uniform-- "virtually unanimous"--approval of the new format of the NID. Some people, he said, were reading it for the first time, apparently on the assumption that the booklet would provide more serious analysis than the intelligence newspaper. [REDACTED]

25X1

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6. Summing up, Gates claimed that these changes and the pickup in our current support had made a considerable impact, and that Brzezinski and Aaron were interpreting this as a response to the guidance they have been giving us through Gates. [REDACTED]

25X1

7. Their current list of substantive concerns is attached. We will be meeting again in about two weeks, unless the results of the meeting on 15 January of Aaron's Working Group on Political Intelligence dictate otherwise. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1A

[REDACTED]
NIO for Special Studies

Attachment

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25X1A FROM : [REDACTED]
National Intelligence Officer for Special Studies

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Distribution: (w/att.)

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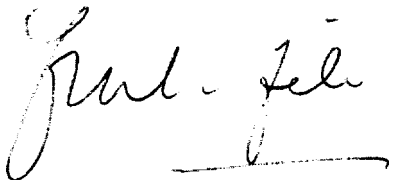

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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